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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

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Confirmation No. 7321

Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.

Docket No. 2000_0345

Serial No. 09/532,153

Group Art Unit 1764

Filed March 21, 2000

Examiner A. Wachtel

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTES BY GASIFICATION

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

On page 2 of the September 23, 2003 Office Action, claims 1-32 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent 6,455,011.

Without acquiescing to such rejection, applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer in order to obviate this obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

With the submission of this terminal disclaimer, it is submitted that this obviousness-type double patenting rejection is overcome, and that the application is now clearly in condition for allowance. Therefore, an early indication of the allowability of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.

Charles R. Watts

Registration No. 33,142 Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 December 23, 2003

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PATENT OFFICE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto is a check in the amount of \$110.00 to cover Patent Office fees relating to filing the following attached papers:

Terminal Disclaimer\$110.00

A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted for use in the Accounting Division, Office of Finance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.

By Con or UST Charles R. Watts

Registration No. 33,142

Attorney for Applicants

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